Leicester, Mass^tts Nov. 6/60.

Dear Mr. Webb;

Since I last wrote you, which was on the 28th^ Sept^r, (enclosing therein the account which I had accidentally omitted from a former letter) I have heard once only from you - viz^t. by a very 'petite' note of Oct. 10, accompanied by one from Richard, and transmitted thro' Mrs. Chapman's hands, which came to hand the 1st^ inst^t. We are much obliged to Richard for his pleasant note, and we all enjoyed it very greatly; and we hope that the 'young folks' will be able to persuade you, another year, to recreate yourself, and gain a new lease of life, by a trip to America. Those of us "who remain" will give you a hearty welcome, and a joyous reception, and will do all in our power to make your coming pleasant to yourselves, - for we hope that your good wife will come too, and see us, and our Yankee land; her discriminating eyes will search out many things which, I venture to say, you would not see; - indeed the correctness with which a woman sees into people, over & above what men commonly do, often surprises me. We all hope you will see "an open door" for a visit to America next year. - You have had the dear Mattie Griffith with you, and could not (I think) help liking her. You have kindly opened your door, and taken her in to your warm heart & home, and she has felt the sunny warmth of yr^s hospitality, (for that sun shines with you, if the other does not,) and has been made happy thereby. Many is the American abolitionist who has found rest, & food, & fire under your roof, and such of them as can will be very happy to have an opportunity of opening their doors to you. - I fear the atmosphere & climate of England may not be quite the thing for M. Griffith; - when we first knew her she was, to all appearance, perfectly well, - plump, with a good share of colour. I hope she will get her health again.

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By our last English papers we see that Dr. Cheever has commenced his movements in Grt. Britain, and our best wishes go with him. He, and the most of our Society, are theologically far enough apart; yet I doubt if he has on earth, out of his immediate Church, a body of sincerer friends, and of those who earnestly desire & long for his complete victory over his open and secret assailants, than the Abolitionists of the Amn. A.S. Society. The Standard has done excellent service in exposing some of the iniquities of his clerical brethren, especially those of the N.Y. Independent Clique; and I am rejoiced to see by the ill-natured sneers of the Ed. of the Indept. against the Standard, that the latter's fire has galled it. The Independent has made a sort of a fool already of old Dr. Campbell, of the British Banner (the Banner is the name, isn't it?) It has played off Campbell's old hatred of Garrison quite ingeniously and used it in hope to discredit Cheever with him (Campbell)! Will it work? or is Dr. Campbell too old a fowl for such chaff as that? [He is a bigoted, spiteful old fellow, I think, at the best.] How bitter he is against Garrison; the lapse of years does not appear to have softened his hatred of G. a particle, nor opened his eyes one jot to the perception of the falsehood & nonsense he utters about him. Cheever must tell him of his utter misconceptions of Garrison; I don't see how he can avoid doing so. But I am persuaded that Campbell would discard Cheever sooner than admit himself mistaken about Garrison. — Dr. Cheever will have a splendid welcome, I doubt not, in Edinburgh and Glasgow. I hope London will give him one rousing meeting to finish off his round. The British religious sympathy will be everything to him, far more than the money. The latter is very needful to enable him & his Church to maintain their position; but the sympathy

will be an ever-fresh fund from which to draw support and encouragement in the new and arduous labours before him. I did not complain of him, at all, for not going to the Edinburgh John Knox meeting. I understood why he did not go, very much as you explain it. But I lamented it very much; — a finer chance to express himself, and a more opportune occasion for his topic, he will hardly have.

I am glad to see how elastic your spirits are, — when you say you could have enjoyed our Canada trip as if you were but 20, — only could your only business anxieties be got off. I hope you will have a chance to try it soon. We had a very good time in Canada, weak as I then was; and I have good reason to be glad of going, for I think I have been gaining strength (tho' slowly) ever since. I am not good for very much now, but I can use both head and hands more easily & and comfortably to myself than at any previous time since December last. —

The young Prince is safely at home again, we trust, before this time. He made a very favorable impression wherever he went in the U. States, and a perfect furor to see him was manifested. The crowds which thronged to see him in New York & Boston far exceeded those which could have been gathered to see & welcome any functionary of our own government, from whether President, Judge, or General. All the men liked him, — and all the women, young or otherwise, fell in love with him. His embarkation at Portland was a brilliant spectacle, as I was apprised by some friends who saw it. The only place in the Union where he was treated with rudeness was at Richmond, Virginia, — on a Sunday too. I was glad to see the Prince & his party took no notice of it, & have made no allusion to it; but we have several out different witnesses to the occurrence of the rudeness & insults, & gross & intentional, and there can be no use in denying it. I enclose you a slip referring to it. 'Tis characteristic of Slaveholding chivalry! —

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was lying in a Virginia jail, and summoned to trial, while lying exhausted by his wounds upon his bed, it was through the ~~incessant labors~~ efforts of Mr. Andrew that able counsel was provided for him, at a ~~very~~ great expense; and ~~he~~ presided at the first great meeting in Boston, held for the purpose of providing for the necessities of the ~~wife~~ wives and children of the ~~murdered~~ imprisoned ~~and~~ or slaughtered members of John Brown's company. Mr. Andrew will undoubtedly be elected Governor by ~~an immense~~ a very large majority;- strong evidence how high the tide of Antislavery has risen in the old Bay State. But it seems now quite likely that Massachusetts is to be subjected to the disgrace of ~~returning~~ sending to Congress three pro-slavery Representatives, (out of eleven, the whole number to which she is entitled,) thus breaking up the unity of her Congressional ~~deputation~~ delegation, ~~and much~~ weakening her influence in Congress, and diminishing her power to support a Republican administration. In these three districts referred to, there has been a solid & strong Union of Democrats, both of the Breckinridge and Douglas stripe, of Bell-Everett men, of old Webster Whigs, and of all sorts of pro-slavery people, against the Republican candidates. I am credibly informed that money has been offered for votes by these united forces, and it is well known that the most desperate efforts have been made to draw out every discontented, disappointed, and hungry partizan, to defeat the Republican candidates in question. We shall soon know the result. Drubtep the ship, which bears this, will also convey to you the results of the election, not in Massachusetts only, but throughout the greater part of the Union also.

November 8th. The above was written on the morning of the day of Election. Now, three days later, I am able to report the result, as obtained by means of the telegraph from

(For advocate, if you like.)

This day (Nov. 6.) is one of somewhat unusual interest & importance here. It is the day of the Presidential Election, including that of Members of Congress throughout the Union. In this State, and many others, important State Officers are also to be chosen; in other States, as Maine, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and in several Slaveholding States, the State elections have already been held, and, as you doubtless have noticed, have gone, in the Northern States, in every instance in favour of the Republican party by large majorities, - in the Slaveholding States, of course, for the pseudo-Democratic party, and generally for the Breckinridge, or extreme pro-slavery, faction of that party. The Bell-Everett party (whose candidates are John Bell of Tennessee for President and Edward Everett of Massachusetts for Vice President) is a third party, (or more properly speaking a fourth, as the Democratic party is now undeniably divided into two, and ~~much~~ more furiously hostile to each other, if possible, than ever to the ~~Abolitionists or~~ Republicans,) and have no creed or platform save "The Union, The Constitution, and the Laws", which means anything or nothing, according to circumstances, and which all the other parties, equally accept. No sane man in the land regards the Bell-Everett party as anything else than a whipper-in to the Democratic party, and in Massachusetts, New York, Kentucky, &c., it has managed to whip in a moderate number of the rich and aristocratic old Daniel Webster, Fugitive Slave Law, Whigs, and set them to voting for the Democratic candidates, cheek-by-jowl with Caleb Cushing, B. F. Hallett, Isaiah Rynders, and other

like respectable and honorable individuals. Sundry of these said rich old Whigs have been pouring out money like water, for weeks back, to qualify voters for themselves and for the other pro-slavery candidates. Of course a very deep and general - almost a breathless interest is felt throughout the country, in the ~~elect~~ issues of this day's Election. The prevailing opinion, North and South, is that Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, and Hannibal Hamlin of Maine, the Republican candidates, will be chosen, by very nearly or quite ~~a unanimous vote of all~~ the whole of the Electoral votes of the Non-Slaveholding States, President & Vice-President of the United States. The "South" are exceeding mad at this, and you have doubtless seen some of the customary raving's and threats which they have been venting for some time, and particularly since the Maine, Ohio, and Pennsylvania State elections went so adversely to their prospects of being able longer to govern this Union, and make the National Government, as it has so long been in their hands, a mere catspaw & tool to do the behests of the Slaveholders. Nevertheless a good many votes will be thrown to-day for the Republican candidates in the five most "Northern" of the Slave States, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri; not enough to ~~give the votes~~ secure the choice of a Presidential Elector in either of them, yet enough to prove that the Southern people are by no means a unit in the support of Slavery, and to show that the march of anti-slavery principles is southward, and destined to conquer all Slave-dom yet.

In speaking of the different parties, I have not made mention of the "Radical Abolitionist" party. It has merely a name to live. As a political party, organizing, and getting up party-machinery, nominating candidates for the Presidency, &c. &c. &c., it is simply a ludicrous absurdity. It will throw a few thousand votes, possibly, in two or three

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States. The great bulk of antislavery men will vote with the Republican party. A consistent, thorough, uncompromising political Antislavery party, is an impossibility in this Union, and under the present Constitution, and all attempts to form such a party have proved miserable failures, as the American Antislavery Society, from the outset, foretold. Our Union with Slaveholders, our joining in a common government with these robbers, plunderers, adulterers, and murderers, is a wicked Union, under any kind of a Constitution such as they will accept, no matter what interpretation be put upon it. But with a Constitution, such as ours is known and acknowledged to be by 999 out of every 1000 people in the land, which bargains with Slavery and gives it "solemn guarantees", which tramples under foot the laws of God, (as John Quincy Adams emphatically declared that it does,) and which systematically oppresses the whole colored population of the land, whether free or slave, with such a Constitution no consistent Abolitionist can consent to be a member of this Government, or can take the oath to support it, or vote for those who will. Whatever benefit can come, through voting, the American Antislavery Society can truly say that, by their persistent and unflinching agitation of the question of Slavery for the last 25 years, they have created antislavery voters by the thousands, drawing men up, towards the high Standard of antislavery principle and of a consistent antislavery life, out of the dead and rotten political parties and the false and corrupt Churches, which Slavery had paralyzed and demoralised all over the land. The Abolitionists of the American A. S. Society stand therefore disfranchised by the very terms of the Union. They cannot

vote, - for that would make them accomplices. They will lend no aid to getting up political parties, whose nominees, if elected, must unite in a common government with Slaveholders, and take the oath of support to a Pro-slavery Constitution. Nevertheless, as between the existing parties, we cannot but desire the success of that one which the Slaveholder most fears, and which will do the most to check the growth of slavery, and promote the interests and spread of freedom. In the present contest this party is undoubtedly the Republican party, although its issues with the Slave power are the fewest possible, and its controlling purpose anything but that of extirpating slavery from the land. If Mr Lincoln is elected President, his administration will undoubtedly be an exceedingly cautious and conservative one. No abolitionist will be in the least surprised to see him go great lengths in conciliating the South. It is greatly to be feared that he will make unmanly and cowardly concessions to them. If, as many of the Southern fire-eaters threaten, a forcible resistance shall be made to his inauguration or administration, it is to be hoped that he will not hesitate to treat the ringleaders as the laws require that traitors and public enemies should be treated; - otherwise he will be despised, both North & South.

The election in ~~an other~~ this State (Massachusetts) of course has a peculiar interest for its own citizens. The candidate for Governor here is John A. Andrew, a gentleman who for a long term of years has been an outspoken abolitionist, and who, as one of the first lawyers of the State, has rendered repeated aid of the most valuable kind in the various fugitive slave cases here, and in whatever other way there was need of the help which he was eminently qualified to give the Cause of Anti-Slavery. A year ago, when the noble John Brown

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nearly the whole Union, excepting the two States on the Pacific ocean (California & Oregon,) from which nothing is as yet heard. - It is quite morally certain, and admitted by all parties, that the Republican party has been triumphant in every "Free" [non-slaveholding] State, except New Jersey, where all the opposition votes were centred on one ticket, - a "Fusion" ticket, so called, - ~~and~~ which prevailed by a few thousands majority. But that is of no consequence. Every other Northern State, it is reported, has given a large majority for the Republican candidates, and Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, the old opponent of Stephen A. Douglas, is elected President of the United States for four years from the 4th of March next. It is also declared that Delaware, a small Slaveholding State, has chosen a Republican representative in Congress, - a significant fact; significant, doubtless, of a low type of genuine republicanism in the representative in question, but also of a decided progress of liberal & anti-slavery ideas in Slaveholding communities. Republican votes were also cast in Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, & Missouri, - 1000 in the city of Baltimore alone, it is reported. The votes of the Slaveholding States are divided between Mr. Breckinridge, "Democrat" and the Bell-Everett ticket.

As to Massachusetts, she has chosen Mr. Andrew, the steadfast Abolitionist and unflinching friend of John Brown, (though not approving of John Brown's manner of assault upon Slavery,) her Governor for the ensuing year; and, mark the fact, by a larger vote than was ever before given to any Governor of the State, - larger by 8000. He received over 102,000 votes in all. Mr. Burlingame is defeated in one of the Boston Congressional districts, and a rich, narrow minded, incompetent old merchant elected in his place. With that exception, the vote in this State is unanimously and overwhelmingly Republican, and her delegation in Congress will be, with that exception, a harmonious one.

The Southern newspaper press, so far as heard from, is generally for "conciliatory" measures (!), and advises to acquiescence, and a fair trial of Mr. Lincoln's administration! The South Carolina legislature passed a resolution yesterday advising a Southern convention to deliberate on the proper course of the South! They will do nothing. These blustering slaveholders are cowards, not less than tyrants; and they are surrounded by a more numerous body of more cool & sober men, who will not suffer these braggarts to plunge the South into scenes of insurrection, violence, & contest, - the end of which, when once begun, none of them can see. Governor Wise, of Virginia, pre-eminently seems bent on doing himself harm, and the South with him. His end will be an inglorious one yet, if he does not mend his ways.

Mr. Douglas, as was said in another case, is "nowhere."

[If you use for Advocate, you can say "from your Boston Correspondent" – omitting my name, this time if you please. – ~~or sign~~.

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(Private.) 11.

I am extremely pained to have to inform you of the sudden death of Edmund Quincy's wife – of which I heard last evening. The cause was congestion of the brain. This will cause a very great change in an excellent friend Q.'s family. It is just a week since I attended, with him, the Annual festival at Weymouth in connexion with the Anti-Slavery Fair there. He presided on the occasion, very happily, and appeared in excellent spirits. On the way home, we talked much of you, and he expressed his purpose of writing to you at an early day. Now, his plans will be much altered, doubtless. — A near connexion of Mrs. Chapman's, also, has just passed away, – the only surviving sister of her father – Miss Mary Weston, an interesting lady, ~~most deeply~~ and faithful ~~for~~ friend of ~~interested in~~ the Anti-Slavery Cause.

My wife and daughter wish me to give their kindest regards to you, and to tell you how much your little note gratified them. They wish, too, to be kindly remembered to Richard. Our last letters from the East made it probable that Edward might soon be on his way home, – the disturbed state of the country where he was, and the angry spirit of the surrounding population, rendering business almost impossible, and subjecting it to constant interruptions. Indeed it had nearly ceased altogether. We look now with eager desire for later letters. I congratulate you that your children are at home, or near you, and not wanderers on the earth.

[Our friends and agents have been very busy this Summer, – East and West; Messrs. Pillsbury, Foss, Robinson, Campbell, and Mrs. Griffing at the West; Messrs. Burleigh, Remond, Heywood, Ford Douglass (a fresh hand and a very effective & pleasing speaker,) and Misses Holley & Putnam at the East. – Garrison

has been able to do but little public speaking
on account of infirm health, with a throat affection
which alone quite disabled him for speaking. – Wendell
Phillips is again stirring up the popular mind; for
our great danger now will be the apathy and self-
complacency with which the North will settle down
in consequence of the Republican successes. We
have seen a Republican Governor in Massachusetts
[Banks] do some disgracefully servile & proslavery
acts, and it is to be feared that we may see the
like repeated now, by Lincoln & his Administration
on a National scale. While it is but just that
he should be tried by his deeds, it is equally the
duty of the friends of freedom everywhere to guard the
people and themselves against the evil influences
of a false security.]

N. B. If you publish any part of this, please
include also the above in brackets.

Again, with sincere regard to all yr
I am, truly yr. friend
Samuel May Jr

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